

Attorney Docket: 01315  
U.S. Application No.: 10/026,835 Examiner: Van Handel Art Unit: 2623  
Response to December 12, 2007 Office Action

### AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

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Claims 1 through 47 (Cancel)

48. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

wirelessly transmitting an activation signal from a presence detector to an interface unit connected in a series connection between a computer and a keyboard;

in response to the activation signal, wirelessly receiving an identification signal at the presence detector, the identification signal comprising a user identifier that identifies a user associated with a transponder;

communicating the user identifier to a computer coupled to the presence detector;  
when the presence detector determines that the user is in the vicinity of the computer, sending a signal from the presence detector to the interface unit;

sending a keyboard signal from the interface unit over the series connection to the computer, the keyboard signal comprising the user identifier and instructing the computer to deactivate a screen saver;

querying for a user profile associated with the user identifier;

accessing the user profile to determine at least one action to be executed in response to the user identifier;

executing the at least one action, the at least one action comprising i) ~~instructing a set-top box to turn on a television directing an email application to retrieve and send email messages and~~ ii) instructing the television to adjust a volume according to the user profile directing a voicemail application to retrieve voicemail messages, iii) instructing the set-top box to select a channel according to the user profile, and iv) setting a timer to power off the television when the timer expires;

sending the user identifier to a presence database;

querying the presence database for other user identifiers associated with the user identifier; and

receiving presence updates identifying presence of the other user identifiers.

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49. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 48, further comprising ~~accessing conflict determination rules when two or more actions conflict, the conflict determination~~ rules specifying that a first executed action predominates over ~~[[a]]~~ later actions, such that the later actions cannot conflict with the first executed action.
50. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 49, further comprising ~~accessing the conflict determination rules when two or more user's actions conflict, the conflict determination~~ rules specifying a predominate user over all other users, such that the actions specified by the other users' profiles can never conflict with the actions specified by the predominate user's profile ~~one of the user's actions to predominate.~~
51. (Original) The method according to claim 49, further comprising i) querying to determine which user's action predominates and ii) receiving a reply to the query specifying which action is to be executed.
52. (Original) The method according to claim 48, wherein executing the at least one action comprises denying access to the computer when an aggregate amount of access is exceeded.
53. (Original) The method according to claim 48, wherein executing the at least one action comprises requesting information for a webpage.
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58. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

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means for ~~wirelessly~~ transmitting an activation signal from a presence detector to an interface unit connected in a series connection between a computer and a keyboard;

in response to the activation signal, means for ~~wirelessly~~ receiving an identification signal at the presence detector, the identification signal comprising a user identifier that identifies a user associated with a transponder;

~~means for communicating the user identifier to a processor computer coupled to the presence detector;~~

when the presence detector determines that the user is in the vicinity of the computer, means for sending a signal from the presence detector to the interface unit;

means for sending a keyboard signal from the interface unit over the series connection to the computer, the keyboard signal comprising the user identifier and instructing the computer to deactivate a screen saver;

means for querying for a user profile associated with the user identifier;

means for accessing the user profile to determine at least one action to be executed in response to the user identifier;

means for executing the at least one action, the at least one action comprising i) instructing a set-top box to turn on a television ~~directing an email application to retrieve and send email messages and~~, ii) instructing the television to adjust a volume according to the user profile ~~directing a voicemail application to retrieve voicemail messages~~, iii) instructing the set-top box to select a channel according to the user profile, and iv) setting a timer to power off the television when the timer expires;

means for sending the user identifier to a presence database;

means for querying the presence database for other user identifiers associated with the user identifier; and

means for receiving presence updates identifying presence of the other user identifiers.

59. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 58, further comprising means for specifying that a first executed action predominates over later actions, such that the later actions cannot conflict with the first executed action ~~accessing conflict determination~~

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~~rules when two or more actions conflict, the conflict determination rules specifying that a first executed action predominates over a later action.~~

60. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 59, further comprising means for specifying a predominate user over all other users, such that the actions specified by the other users' profiles can never conflict with the actions specified by the predominate user's profile ~~accessing the conflict determination rules when two or more user's actions conflict, the conflict determination rules specifying one of the user's actions to predominate.~~
61. (Original) The system according to claim 59, further comprising i) means for querying to determine which user's action predominates and ii) means for receiving a reply to the query specifying which action is to be executed.
62. (Original) The system according to claim 58, wherein the means for executing the at least one action comprises means for denying access to the computer when an aggregate amount of access is exceeded.
63. (Original) The system according to claim 58, wherein the means for executing the at least one action comprises means for requesting information for a webpage.
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67. (Cancel)
68. (Currently Amended) A computer readable media storing processor executable instructions for performing a method, the method comprising:

wirelessly transmitting an activation signal from a presence detector to an

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interface unit connected in a series connection between a computer and a keyboard;

in response to the activation signal, ~~wirelessly~~ receiving an identification signal at the presence detector, the identification signal comprising a user identifier that identifies a user associated with a transponder;

~~communicating the user identifier to a computer coupled to the presence detector;~~

when the presence detector determines that the user is in the vicinity of the computer, sending a signal from the presence detector to the interface unit;

sending a keyboard signal from the interface unit over the series connection to the computer, the keyboard signal comprising the user identifier and instructing the computer to deactivate a screen saver;

querying for a user profile associated with the user identifier;

accessing the user profile to determine at least one action to be executed in response to the user identifier;

executing the at least one action, the at least one action comprising i) instructing a set-top box to turn on a television directing an email application to retrieve and send email messages and, ii) instructing the television to adjust a volume according to the user profile directing a voicemail application to retrieve voicemail messages, iii) instructing the set-top box to select a channel according to the user profile, and iv) setting a timer to power off the television when the timer expires;

sending the user identifier to a presence database;

querying the presence database for other user identifiers associated with the user identifier; and

receiving presence updates identifying presence of the other user identifiers.

69. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 68, further comprising instructions for accessing conflict determination rules when two or more actions conflict, the conflict determination rules specifying that a first executed action predominates over a later action.

70. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 69, further comprising

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instructions for accessing the conflict determination rules when two or more user's actions conflict, the conflict determination rules specifying one of the user's actions to predominate.

71. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 69, further comprising i) instructions for querying to determine which user's action predominates and ii) instructions for receiving a reply to the query specifying which action is to be executed.
72. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 68, further comprising instructions for denying access to the computer when an aggregate amount of access is exceeded.
73. (Original) The computer readable media according to claim 68, further comprising instructions for requesting information for a webpage.
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